

# Olive Trees

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JULY, 1921

No. 7

## A MONTHLY MISSIONARY JOURNAL

Published by The Board of Foreign  
Missions of the Synod of the Re-  
formed Presbyterian Church of North  
America in the interest of Mission Work

### MIDSUMMER NUMBER.

This issue is of unusual size, being twenty-four pages. This is because the space was needed to complete the Annual Report of the Board, and also because, as usual, there will be no issue in August. The Editor hopes for a few weeks away from this sweltering City of Brotherly Love.

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# OLIVE TREES

A Monthly Missionary Journal.

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE  
SYNOD OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
NORTH AMERICA IN THE INTEREST OF ALL MISSION WORK,  
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# OLIVE TREES

A Monthly Journal devoted to Missionary Work in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

VOL. XXXVI

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## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Continued

Evangelism has met with difficulties because of political disturbances. Some regions were in the throes of revolution, with troops and warring factions, and unrestrained lawlessness and brigandage. The people were terrified. Sustained evangelism, under such conditions, is greatly hindered. Those weak in the faith sometimes turn back. Everywhere was suspicion and insecurity.

In such conditions, God manifested His gracious protection. The 46th Psalm was sung with new meaning. The Covenant care of the God of Israel was a real experience. Daily peril averted gave new faith and trust.

Gradually the more serious aspects of the situation subsided and some work could be resumed in out-stations. Monthly meetings of workers could be held in some districts; but the General Conference of Workers had to be, for the year, abandoned.

The need of better training of workers is felt. The report reads: "We believe the need is apparent on the part of preachers and evangelists of a period of study for their mental and spiritual refreshment and better acquaintance with methods of work; and to this end desire to recommend a month's Bible Study and Conference, to be provided by the Training School Staff during the autumn season."

During the year, much evangelical literature has been distributed, which is regarded as a valuable asset.

The missionaries decided last year that no new chapel should be opened

at mission expense; but the Christians should be encouraged to assume this expense. One new chapel has been erected in this way during the year, due to one enthusiastic layman. But work has been begun in new centres where as yet there are no chapels.

In the Mission's Report of "Evangelistic Review and Plan of Work Committee," we note that there have been marked evidences of true discipleship on the part of some; and of real desire to glorify the Master in life and lips, even where the cost has been great. "It still must be confessed," says the Report, "that this is true of the few rather than of the many and that lamentable weakness is the portion of most, who are unwilling to make the sacrifice necessary to obtain power. Outward evidence is seen in disregard of Ordinances, failure to use the Word and to pray, neglect of and profanation of the Sabbath, and unwillingness to own Jesus as Lord in the realm of possessions. 'Self-Support' is a name rather than a reality, and this department of duty needs elaborate education before a 'self-Supporting, Self-Propagating, Self-Respecting Church' is to be realized. The cultivation of the spiritual life of Christians, in its various relationships, responsibilities and privileges, we believe to be of urgent importance, and urge this claim upon all who do evangelistic work."

The "Plan of Work" for native workers, both of men and women, gives large place to prayer, Bible study, and the exercise of spiritual gifts.



## DO SING

Soon after the Mission meeting, last year, Missionary R. C. Adams and family moved to Do Sing. This city is the centre of Fungtsuen, Hai Kin, and part of Wat Naam districts. After the Training School closed, three of the students came to assist Mr. Adams. One labored in Fungtsuen; another at Fungtsuen River Mouth; and another at Wat Naam. These students are doing good work. At River Mouth station, five men are registered as believers in the doctrine. At Wat Naam, opposition was at first experienced. But this subsided in measure, and "seven women have registered as believers; and they show evidences of being real heart believers." The students preach in the streets; visit shops and witness wherever they can. They make report once a month.

Several series of meetings were planned by Mr. Adams, for Do Sing; but, on account of political disturbances, not all could be carried out. At one series, Miss Huston and Miss Stewart were the chief assistants. The chapel was filled each meeting for six days. In December, another series was held, this time Dr. A. I. Robb, and evangelist Chung Leung Kwai, from Lo Ting, assisted. "As a result of these meetings," says Mr. Adams, "more than forty men and women accepted Christ as their Saviour, and twenty more registered as desiring to make a study of the doctrine. These new converts are now enrolled in a Bible class which meets every five days. Some are showing marked interest." Two Korean Christians, living in Do Sing, are present at every service in the chapel. Literature is distributed.

Missionary Adams conducted two Communion services in Do Sing and two at Fungtsuen. Fourteen adults were baptized and one child.

Mr. Adams closes thus: "Shortly after coming to Do Sing, we, together with other members of the Mission,

began praying for two Spirit-filled leaders among the members here; and we see evidences that our prayer has been answered."

## Training School.

Some of the fruits in evangelization have been set down to show the great value of the Training School, conducted by Dr. A. I. Robb. The Training School holds a vital place in evangelization. "By their fruits ye shall know them." The expectation is, that some day, a native ministry, without foreign help, will carry forward the evangelization of China. To prepare men for this great task is the work of this school. Dr. Robb has been assigned the duty of preparing a ministry. It is a large work and requires great patience. But great results have already been achieved. That the spiritual and educational equipment of students might be increased, another "year" was added to the "Course," making it four "years." Because of this change, there was no graduating class this year. There are five students of the "third year;" one of the "second year" and four of the "first year." Dr. Robb states that the attendance was exceptionally good. Three of the students did not miss a session, and the average attendance was over 90 per cent.

The "Special Meetings" at the beginning of the year had a marked effect on the spiritual life of many of the students, and "the class-work done was better as a result." Having no Chinese teacher to assist, Dr. Robb speaks of the efficient help given by Revs. Kempf, Adams and Mitchell. Mr. Kempf taught one class a week; as did Mr. Adams, who came from Do Sing for the purpose. Rev. Mitchell taught two hours a week. Dr. Robb speaks highly of the work done by these brethren. Dr. Robb himself spent about three hours a day with the classes. One hour was given to the study of historical books of the Old Testament; one hour to the New Testament; then Homiletics and con-

stant practice in outlining and planning sermons. Thirty minutes a day were given to devotions; and to memorizing the Shorter Catechism, of which they committed 84 during the term. Review and examinations were held, just as in our own Seminary, and results showed faithful work. Sabbath Schools, prayer meetings, personal work are lines of practical service in which the students strive to excel.

Your Board rejoices in these gratifying evidences of progress in preparing a Chinese ministry. The outlook is full of promise and enables us to understand better the wide reach of evangelistic work recited above.

In addition to Training School, Dr. Robb is Moderator of the Session of Tak Hing congregation and has had charge of out-stations at Ma Hui and San Kong Shi. Licentiate, Chue Hon Shang is the native preacher in Tak Hing congregation, and is rendering acceptable service. This congregation has been self-sustaining for two years. Twenty-three adults and three infants were baptized during the year. There has been an increased attendance of men, and some of the members "have been earnest personal workers, with visible results." Special mention is made of Yeung Yuk Shan, who conducts a restaurant in a town at the mouth of Lo Ting River. Uneducated as he is, he rented a room at his own expense, and held meetings every night. Soldiers were stationed there, and some Christians among them helped in the meetings. Two were baptized, as a result, and six others were enrolled as applicants. "The whole community," says Dr. Robb, "is interested in the man who is freely and at cost to himself, telling them of the Saviour from sin." Dr. Robb held seven Communion services during the year; baptized 40, and visited Lo Ting and Do Sing in connection with evangelistic services.

#### Medicine.

With Dr. E. J. M. Dickson home on furlough, there are but two physicians

on the field—Dr. Kate W. McBurney and Dr. M. Edna Wallace. Dr. J. M. Wright is on the staff of Canton Hospital. Returning from furlough, he and his family reached Canton October 26, 1920, and immediately began work, as many wounded soldiers were being brought in. He reports: "The day's work in the hospital is begun by a Prayer meeting consisting of all nurses and doctors. Evangelistic work is being emphasized, there being two evangelists employed, and each worker on the hospital staff, both native and foreign, endeavors to keep in mind the object of our work—to make the people acquainted with Christ. During the year, 160 conversions have been recorded. Three days a week are given to Free Dispensary for the public. These are opened with prayer. Daily chapel is held for all patients and employees. We are thankful to God for His mercies during the year."

Dr. McBurney recites the steps taken to make the Gregg Memorial Hospital, Tak Hing, self-supporting, and under native administration. After many efforts this was finally accomplished, the management being under a Board of six men and three women. "The work is new to them," says Dr. McBurney, "but they will learn."

Dr. McBurney has carried on Medical Evangelistic work and Public Health work as opportunity has afforded. She attended a Medical Conference at Peking, the beginning of the year, where she came in touch with latest methods. Meetings for Evangelism and Public Health study were held on our own field, 29 of them, and many informal meetings which were useful. During the Spring months, she spent Mondays and Tuesdays in the Dispensary in Do Sing, until the river blockade stopped the work. She asks the prayers of the Church for the Board of Managers of the Hospital, and that the real purpose may not be lost sight of; and

"that we all may be emptied of self and cleansed, that we may be vessels that the Master can fill and use to show forth His glory in this dark and needy land."

### LO TING.

Dr. M. Edna Wallace, as physician, has stood alone in medical work in Lo Ting, for a good part of the year. Miss Inez M. Smith, nurse in the hospital, went to Canton Hospital, having accepted a position there. Her relationship to the Mission is passed up to Synod, by the Board, and without recommendation.

Dr. Wallace has had a busy and strenuous year. The work has covered 2702 out-patients, 91 in-patients, 261 clinics, 12 operations and 16 out-calls. She collected \$22.60 in fees, which were put into the work. The unsettled condition of the Province influenced to some extent the work of the hospital. During the last six months of the year, 500 people came to the hospital the first time. The majority of them had never heard the gospel. Often as many as 9 or 10 people accompany one patient. Add nine to many of those coming and you soon have a great number who hear the gospel. These people go home and soon the good news is passed to others. Also, there is daily Bible study for hospital helpers; and extemporaneous talks to waiting dispensary patients. An attempt is made to tell each new patient of the Saviour; and literature is given to all that can read; or who have people at home who can read. Also, there is a Bible Class on Sabbath, conducted by Chinese; and special evening meetings for soldiers.

Dr. Wallace expresses thanks for hearty co-operation of fellow-laborers, and closes thus: "Thanks to the Heavenly Father for the answer to prayer concerning the plague. This is the first time in several years that there has not been an epidemic of the Bubonic Plague in Lo Ting."

### Educational Department.

The Mission has an "Educational

Review and Plan of Work" Committee. Many helpful recommendations were proposed. Not all of them could be carried out at once; but a good start was made. None but Christian teachers are now employed. They hope for a Summer Normal Institute, and a High School. All workers are to stress Sabbath School Extension work. Also, weaving, tailoring, carpentering, sericulture, are regarded as important parts of the school curriculum. Sometime in the future they hope for self-sustaining Boarding School, and are cultivating the self-help department, and are opening facilities for pupils along this line. Quite a few of the pupils have earned money by work. There is more in this matter than the few dollars saved to the Mission Treasury. It cultivates the spirit of independence, which is helpful in the formation of character.

### Boys' School.

Missionary Julius A. Kempf is charged with teaching and overseeing the boys, and an important work it is; for the boys, ere long, will be men. As the boys are taught today the men will be tomorrow. They need a strong guiding hand. Mr. Kempf is putting energy and vigor into the boys, and is opening before them possibilities of usefulness. When curriculums get well established it is from the Boys' School candidates for the Training School will be expected. It stands at the source of supply, and is laying foundation work.

Much of the first month of the year was given by Mr. Kempf, as by others, to preparation for, and helping in, the "Special Meetings," heretofore mentioned. Also, he assisted Dr. Robb in the Training School, giving one hour a week for fourteen weeks. In the Boys' School, he gave fourteen hours a week. Six of the fourteen were given to Bible instruction; and on Sabbaths one hour was given to conducting and teaching a Sabbath School in the Boys' School building. The school did not lose a single day



during the whole school year. During the civil strife, the government schools and private schools in Tak Hing were closed for a month or more. But the Mission schools were in session every day, and with remarkably good attendance. The enrollment for the year was 56. Average attendance, 44. Five hours a week were given to Industrial Educational work during the first term; and two hours during the second. Mr. Kempf stresses this industrial training as equipping pupils for leadership in various lines. He asks careful reading of Mr. Mitchell's Report on Industrial Work. In closing Mr. Kempf says: "The school wishes to acknowledge the assistance rendered by Miss Huston, who gave two hours a week instruction in music, and to Mrs. Kempf, who gave seven a week in English and sewing."

#### Girl's and Woman's Schools.

In the Girl's and Woman's Schools, Tak Hing, the Misses Rose A. Huston and Mary R. Adams in charge, the enrollment was 92, with an average attendance of 73. In the number is included a school at Koeung and To Hung. Pupils paid about 30 per cent. of boarding expense; and one paid all, without saying "pong choh" (help). The pupils work at sewing, fancy work, mat-weaving, etc., and sell the articles, and thus help themselves along. One output sold for \$20, and as much more was in sight. They also help in cooking, housework, gardening. The teachers report: "When it was announced that a collection would be taken for famine sufferers, many of the girls and women had not a cent to their names to give; so they proposed to cut down on their food allowance if we would allow them to give what they would save. We gladly assented, with the result they had about \$9 to give." In other ways they earned \$10 more. And, the teachers add, "They were truly 'hilarious givers.'"

Political troubles proved, in some ways, a blessing, as some of the

wealthiest women and girls fled to the Mission for protection. There they learned of Christ. Some of these are now pupils. "As one left to be married, the teachers write, "after only two short, happy months, it was with tears streaming down her cheeks. We believe that she has Christ in her heart." There were two graduates from the Girls' School and four from the Women's School last year. Most of them will engage in the work. Miss Adams and Miss Huston make trips to outlying regions to various schools, some trips averaging 40 miles walk.

A remarkable incident is the opening of a school in the Magistrate's house, and at his request. He wanted his wives and daughters taught, and agreed to Bible study one hour a day, rather than fail in his desire. Nine pupils were enrolled, and the roll included the son's wives, and wives of assistants. This school was started by one or two pupils, while the teachers were away for rest. It continued until political conditions, and the removal of the Magistrate, closed it. It was a remarkable illustration of the good influence our missionary teachers are having on their pupils. "What hath the Lord wrought?" Five women have gone out of the Woman's Training School this year, and they are doing splendid work.

Reporting Redpath's Memorial School, Lo Ting, Miss Jennie M. Dean states that they greatly miss Miss Ella Margaret Stewart, on furlough. Three of the graduates of last year gave timely assistance. Dr. Wallace and Miss Barr helped one semester by teaching drawing and English. The Fall semester was sadly interrupted by the revolution. Three full weeks were lost. But there was some compensation. Many prominent women and their daughters fled to the Mission for safety, and Miss Dean says: "We could not have asked a better opportunity to witness for Christ." Presently the fiercer aspect of the revolution died down a little. A Sabbath-

Afternoon Sabbath School was opened with 100 pupils registered, and with attendance all that could be desired. Thanks must be given for the few who made decision for Christ. The teachers, in some of the out-post schools, led some to Christ. One Bible woman, in Wai Tai, led a family of seven to the Lord. "That school has proved a centre of real spiritual power," says Miss Dean, "through Christ being lived out in daily life."

Her report closes thus: "So we go forward with the New Year confident in our God who will supply all our needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

#### **Bible Readers.**

Miss Nellie A. Brownlee, in reporting her Bible work among women in villages and towns, speaks of the many places visited; of the patient reading and teaching of the Word of life; of the influence of the Word upon the heart and life. She goes forth in the spirit of prayer, for it is war with the kingdom of darkness all the time. But "the gospel is the power of God unto salvation." Homes are transformed, for there come light, joy and peace into family circles. Sabbath-keeping comes to be a sign between them and God. Applicants for Baptism soon learn that they must keep the Lord's Day to receive the ordinance.

Extensive plans for itinerating through the region were formed; but unsettled conditions hindered. A few Conferences were held; some of them while in fear of oncoming soldiers, who were burning and pillaging, and committing deeds of greatest wrong. Many fervent prayers went up to the throne for Divine protection. And the Lord heard.

Bible-Itinerating Work has large possibilities, and promises to be blessed of the Redeemer. Miss Brownlee is full of enthusiasm for this work.

#### **New Missionaries Getting Into the Work.**

Miss Jean M. Barr went to Lo Ting, after the "Special Meetings" in Tak Hing. "From the time of arrival," she says, "unto the summer vacation I studied four hours a day, reading the Bible, Pilgrim's Progress, etc., and preparing the Sabbath School lesson each week for the class which I taught in the Girls' School. I also taught English in the school three times a week during the Spring term." With Miss Dean, she made visits to the country villages. On returning from summer vacation, they found the city of Lo Ting in the possession of many troops. But they received no harm. "We are indeed grateful to our Heavenly Father," she writes, "for His loving care, and realize perhaps a little more fully that God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in time of trouble." Miss Barr is studying two hours a day with a teacher. Also, she has the responsibility for the Wednesday evening meetings for the Christian women, in which she says, she is learning two things—"To apply personally and to pray definitely."

In closing she says: "I want to forget the things that are behind, and stretch forward toward the things that are before, to press toward the goal of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus; praying that He will use my life to bring honor to His Name during the coming year."

Miss Lillian McCracken's second year was divided between work and study, as is usually the case with new missionaries. There is no royal road to acquiring the Chinese language. Hard and prolonged study is the only way. The Church at home should bear this in mind; both for China and the Levant. In addition to study, Miss McCracken taught a class in the Girls' School. In company with Miss Brownlee, she made trips to villages. These gave an idea of the district, its extent, its people, and its needs; and



gave a clearer view of the problems before them. One trip more than a thousand people heard God's message.

For a time Miss McCracken was called upon to pass through severe and prolonged illness, during which she received loving care by the missionaries.

She closes the report with the words: "I praise God that He has graciously given me back my health in abundant measure. As I face the next year I pray that, 'forgetting the things which are behind,' I may stretch forward to the things which are before."

#### Industrial Department.

In reporting this work, Missionary J. C. Mitchell speaks of China's great need for Industrial Education. Industrial School are being opened by the Chinese, and they are doing creditable work. Young men of promise are beginning to study industry. At the Canton Christian College young men of wealthy parents are learning how to make jams and jellies, test milk, and milk cows, plant vegetables and such like. Many people in the country are asking what crops can be raised more profitably and what industries would make them more prosperous. Heretofore, the Chinese knew little of these matters, but now they are beginning to know. Mr. Mitchell says the Chinese School is changing rapidly, and also the demands of the public for schools and teachers are changing. At Shui Hing there is a Middle School which has a course in Agriculture, Sericulture, gardening, crop-experimentation.

The four acres belonging to the Mission have been put under cultivation. About one-half of it was planted with 75,000 mulberry trees—probably three-fourths of them by pupils of the Girls' and Women's Schools. They are studying to combat disease which attacks silk-worm eggs. A little start has been made in woodwork and tailoring. They have a cow and calf and a few pigs. Mats and shoes have

been made. Mr. Mitchell closes thus: "Work at times seems rather discouraging as the expenses were large and the returns little. But in it all we have learned a few things and are getting things ready for a start. We appreciate the help of those associated in the work and hope that soon some one better equipped for the work will come and take it up."

#### Statistics.

The Mission reports that at close of 1920 there were 13 stations, 5 ordained ministers, 5 ministers' wives, 2 single women, 5 Chinese licentiates, 13 Chinese evangelists (men), six Bible readers (women), 2 organized congregations; 12 chapels, 78 adult baptisms, 11 infant baptisms; 9 received by certificate, 9 deaths, 8 dismissals, 659 communicants, 11 Sabbath Schools, 31 teachers, 297 average attendance; 1 Bible Class, 9 prayer meetings, 25 Communion held, \$927 contributions. In Girls' School, 23 boarding pupils, 15 day pupils, 5 graduates, twelve hours' devotions each week, 12 hours' Bible study each week. In Women's School, 23 pupils, 2 graduates, 2 hospitals.

A Training School with four foreign teachers, 10 students; number of school days, 84.

#### Finances.

At last Synod your Board, after carefully computing expenses on the various fields, traveling expenses of furloughed missionaries, and necessary repairs and equipment, was assigned \$105,000. Received for the years.

For the deep and abiding interest which the Church has in her Missions, your Board expresses thanks to the Head of the Church, to whom be all the glory. He it is that moves our hearts. We commend to you the careful reading of the report of Treasurer Steele. Its careful consideration will be helpful and gratifying.

#### In General View.

The year has had its joys, its sorrows. The dark cloud of war has

rested on both the Levant and China fields; not fierce and bloody all the time, but enough to keep the population in state of constant uneasiness and fear. This has hindered, though God, in both fields, has overruled for good. Some, through the very stress of danger, have sought refuge under the shadow of His wings. Also, especially in the Levant Missions, the strength of the workers has, for weeks, yes months, at a time been given to preserving life. Through the generosity of people in the home land, goods, foods, clothing, have been sent for distribution. Necessity was upon the missionaries. They ceased not to toil and labor to ameliorate distress, soothe the sick and comfort the dying. The distress was far-flung, and the missionaries had to reach far out. With Christian heroism they stood by and fought the desolating floods. Many sufferers have been made glad. Mr. Samuel R. Boggs, Elder in Third Philadelphia, has given much time and energy in preparing and forwarding your gifts to those dying of hunger and from exposure. We all appreciate his efforts to keep their needs before us.

Missionary J. K. Robb, because of sickness in his family, is not yet able to return to China. Dr. E. J. M. Dickson and family have engaged passage for return to Lo Ting. Dr. Stewart and family, and Dr. A. J. McFarland and family, and Dr. Calvin McCarroll and family, expect to return to the Levant in early Fall. Their welcome by missionaries and native brethren will be excessively joyous.

The arrangement for taking pages of advertisement in the *Christian Nation* has proved unsatisfactory, and the Board would ask that it be discontinued.

#### New Missionaries.

Mr. Robert W. George and Mrs. Remo I. Robb are under appointment as missionary teachers to Cyprus. They sail in August.

A young man teacher is sorely

needed for the Boys' School, Mersine; and a young man teacher for Boys' School, Latakia.

Blow the trumpet in Mount Ephraim that young ministers may hear! That college graduates, both young men and young women, may hear the "call" for service in the grandest work in the world. The "call" is exceeding loud, and it is believed to be the voice of God.

#### Books for Study.

The Board would recommend the following books:

Seniors: "The Kingdom and the Nations," by Eric M. North, Ph. D.

Intermediates: "A Noble Army," by Ethel Daniels Hubbard.

Juniors: "Under Many Flags," by Cronks and Singmaster.

Theme: "Facing the Unfinished Task in America."

Adult: "From Survey to Service," by Harlan Paul Douglas.

Young People: "Playing Square with Tomorrow," by Fred. Eastman.

Juniors: "Stay-at-Home Journeys," by Agnes Wilson Osborne.

The time for which J. C. McFeeters, F. M. Wilson, J. B. Willson, F. M. Foster, R. J. Bole, S. R. Boggs were elected has expired, and their places should be filled.

Also, the Board asks that Walter McCarroll be added to the Board in place of J. B. Willson, who has not been able to attend the meetings, and whose term has expired, and that E. W. Jones be added to the Board.

On account of severe illness, the efficient Corresponding Secretary of the Board, F. M. Wilson, is not able to attend the meeting of Synod. The Recording Secretary, F. M. Foster, and Samuel R. Boggs have been appointed to represent the Board on the floor of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

F. M. WILSON,

*Corresponding Secretary.*

F. M. FOSTER,

*Recording Secretary.*

\* \* \* \*

## THE SYNOD AND MISSIONS

OLIVE TREES would be glad to set forth at length many matters which came before Synod; for all were deeply interesting. But we are forced, through space limitations, to confine ourselves to the one matter—*missions*.

Synod gave due consideration to this great cause. The Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was read by the chairman, Rev. D. R. Taggart. Before the report was considered, Moderator Slater presented to the Synod the missionaries in the homeland. The line filled the rather wide pulpit from end to end and was an impressive sight. The committee had arranged for one from each field to address the Synod. Dr. Stewart represented Syria; Dr. McFarland, Tarsus; Mr. Weir, Cyprus, and Dr. Tarsus; Mr. Weir, Cyprus; and Dr. years in Cyprus, is taking special courses in Princeton, for further work on the island. Messrs. Remo Robb and Robert George sail away in August for three-year term in Cyprus. All regretted that Synod did not have opportunity to see these talented, consecrated young men. Dr. Esmond Smith and wife sail in August for Beirut for a year in the Language School, after which Dr. Smith will join Dr. Ralph. Miss French, of Mersina, in her report to the Board, made most touching appeal for some young man to take charge of the Boys' School there. She is burdened with work and responsibility.

The opening of work in Yunan Province, China, was referred back to the Board. The announcement that Dr. A. I. Robb and family were returning home because of a breakdown in health caused much sorrow for all know how reluctantly Dr. Robb would leave China. All will earnestly pray that the Master will grant restoration. Dr. McFarland has been assigned to Latakia Centre, and he and Mrs. McFarland sail in August. Dr. Dickson and wife sail in September for China.

Through the Budget, Synod assigned \$55,000 for the work of For-

eign missions for the coming year. Last year the assignment was \$105,000. The Church can be assured that the Board sees clearly the financial situation, and that it will make heroic effort to keep all departments of the work going without curtailment *if possible*. The Redeemer may send special *gifts* and *bequests* to tide over the circle. He has done so heretofore, and we have learned to trust Him.

In fine, such meetings of Synod hearten and encourage the Board in carrying forward the work the Church has assigned. To suppose that Missions is the only work the Church has to do would be inexcusably superficial. Work at home is equally important. "Beginning at Jerusalem" is an order which has never been countermanded. The work is one, whether at home or abroad, and under whatsoever Board or pastoral care. In its particular field for care, supervision and direction, the Board rejoices in marks of God's goodness during a stressful year; and it lays hold, in unshaken faith, in the promises of God for the year now at hand. The Corresponding Secretary of the Board, Dr. F. M. Wilson, was not able to be at Synod. He was missed in all the sessions of Synod, and in the matter of Missions most of all.

## OBITUARY.

Resolutions of the W. M. S. of Union and Pine Creek congregations on the death of Mrs. Martha E. Kilpatrick.

We, as a society already few in numbers, are again called to mourn the death of one of our much-loved sisters and co-laborers. We humbly bow to God's will, feeling that he has said, "Friend, come up higher."

That we hereby express our loving appreciation of her Christian character, her earnest missionary spirit and her readiness to promote the interests of our society and every good work in the congregation.



### AMERICANIZATION.

Americanization is "loyalty to the American flag and principles for which it stands; devotion to American ideals and their constant application in life and service; the square deal in all business and the spirit of brotherhood for all mankind."

Why did we start the Americanization work? To help win the war for Democracy. The Federal Government directed our attention officially to the subject of Americanization, through the Bureau of Education, the Bureau of Immigration, and through the Bureau of Naturalization. In the United States there were seven hundred thousand men of draft age who could not read or write English or any other language. In our training camps, thousands of our draftees could not understand the commands of their officers.

The presence in our country of such a large number of persons unable to speak the language of the country is a problem of deep national interest. The non-English speaking immigrant in most cases has no contact with American life and ideals. He lives in a foreign colony composed of those of his own race. His wants are supplied by those familiar, not only with his language, but with his customs. He lives in "Little Italy," "Little Greece," "Little Poland." His children, to be sure, go to the American school and talk to each other in the language unknown to their parents. Their knowledge of the language opens no door to the parents, but it widens the gulf between the conversation of the Old World ideas and the lawlessness of the New. The children despise the illiterate parent and lose in their newer knowledge the respect of parental authority. Granted the need of a common tongue, then comes the vast problem of teaching the alien the language of the country which he has chosen for his home. It is a task such as has never been attempted before in

the history of the world. Rome conquered nations and spread her language by her legions. Christianity spread the tongue of the Gospels by her peaceful missionaries; from time immemorial conquering nations have enforced their language on their vassals, but to no nation was ever given the task of teaching such a myriad-tongued throng; the polyglot population of the world. The school is well fitted to teach the child in his own tongue, or the adult seeker equipped with a knowledge of English, has been strained by this added burden. Not only have the numbers to be taught been immense, but the time available for learning has been very small. The immigrant, unlike the ordinary learner, cannot give the major part of his time and effort to this problem of learning a new tongue. On the contrary, he comes to the night school, after a weary day of hard labor, of monotonous, dusty, dirty, mechanical toil. He brings to the task a body exhausted and a mind unfitted for severe mental effort. It is small wonder that, such being the case, the results achieved have not been noteworthy. We as American people have not done our part. Americanization must begin at home. The native citizen of the United States must enter upon a new understanding of the principles of Americanism. He must sincerely and whole heartedly accept the tasks of translating these standards and into helpful attitudes toward the strangers within our gates. The alien cannot be compelled to love America; only love begets love. The practice for decades of calling the immigrant "names," of applying unpleasant epithets to races, of looking askance at the Slav as a Hunkie; at the Jew as a Sheney, at the Italian as a Dago, cannot be overcome by mere changes in phrasing, only through the manifestation of kindly attitudes and the spirit of love. Americanization begins with an examination of American traits and ends with the perfecting of an assimilation movement that includes

young and old; white, yellow, red and black; native-born and foreign-born. We may consider the Mayflower Compact as the initial statement of Americanism, the Declaration of Independence, Washington's addresses, and Lincoln's speeches as illustrations. The first group to respond to Americanization, then, must be the native-born Americans. With American principles understood by all native Americans, and stated in terms ranging from personal to world-wide democracy, Americanization can go forward.

When war was declared between the United States and Germany, there were Americans of native birth who acted as though they were thinking of the impending conflict in terms of individual gain and were asking themselves the question not, "How can I serve my nation most unselfishly?" but "What is there in it for me?" There were persons who looked upon the manufacturing of munitions of war, the building of ships and aircraft as so many opportunities for piling up profits. There were other persons who thought of strikes—direct action—in stopping war manufacturing as emergency opportunities for demanding higher wages.

We must look upon the foreigner as our brother. Most of our ancestors were foreigners.

N. B.—Read by Mrs. Mary Porter, at the Pittsburgh Presbyterial. Mrs. Porter is a welfare worker in the Pittsburgh district. In our next issue we will give her report of conditions as she has found them in her personal work.—*Editor*.

### LOVE'S REDEMPITIVE SACRIFICE

Norman Macleod in his Highland Parish tells a wonderful story of love's redemptive sacrifice. Years ago a Highland widow, unable to pay her rent, was threatened with eviction. She set out, with her only child, to walk ten miles over the mountains to

the home of a relative. When she started the weather was warm and bright, for the month was May, but before she reached the home of her friend a terrible snowstorm fell upon the hills. She did not reach her destination, and next day a dozen strong men started to search for her. At the summit of the pass where the storm had been the fiercest they found her in the snow, stripped almost to nakedness, dead. In a sheltering nook they found the child, safe and well, wrapped in the garments the mother had taken from her own body.

Years afterwards the son of the serious.

minister who had conducted the mother's funeral went to Glasgow to preach a preparatory sermon. The night was stormy and the audience small. The snow and the storm recalled to his mind the story he had often heard his father tell, and, abandoning his prepared sermon, he told the story of a mother's love.

Some days after he was hastily summoned to the bed of a dying man. The man was a stranger to him, but seizing the minister's hand he said, "You do not know me, but I know you, and knew your father before you. Although I have lived in Glasgow many years, I have never attended a church. The other day I happened to pass your door as the snow came down. I heard the singing and slipped into a back seat. There I heard the story of the widow and her son." The man's voice choked and he cried, "I am that son! Never did I forget my mother's love, but I never saw the love of Christ in giving himself for me until now. It was God made you tell that story. My mother did not die in vain. Her prayer is answered."—*Expository Times*.

Blessed are the happiness makers who know how to shine on one's gloom with their cheer.—Henry Ward Beecher.

## NEWS FROM THE FIELD

### AND NOTES OF THE WORKERS

Edited by MRS. FINDLEY M. WILSON, 2410 N. Marshall Street  
Philadelphia, Penna.

**Tak Hing, China.** The Misses McCracken and Brownlee, with their two Bible women, left Tak Hing on the morning of April 26th on a boat trip to be gone six weeks. May their visits to these many villages with the gospel messages be a great blessing to this people.

\* \* \* \*

There are now eighty-three pupils in the boys' school. Only twenty-two of these are Christians or sons of Christian parents. Will you not pray that every boy who has entered the school this year may find the pearl of great price and take the glad news to his home?

\* \* \* \*

This interesting history of the Training School at Tak Hing was written by Dr. A. I. Robb, who has it in charge:

"It is quite possible that there is not general understanding of the Training School in China, and I wish to say a little in the way of explanation. There are but four months of the school each year, the term beginning about the first of March and closing at the first of July. The course extends over a period of four years, and the direct study of the Bible is the main part of the work. The students have to find their own support entirely the first term. They are employed by the mission, if they make good the first term, at reasonable wages; and after the first year may borrow an amount sufficient to buy their food during the school term, but have to repay it during the next vacation.

"During vacation they are either stationed at chapels or sent to new territory, where they preach, teach, sell books and do anything that they can to advance the cause of Christ and make the gospel known.

"There are twelve students in the school this year. Five of them will complete the course in July. Four entered this year. One who was here last year was advised not to return, as his work did not give promise of usefulness. Another a blind man, who attended last year just to learn what he could and was not employed during vacation, married a wife and did not feel that he could return.

"The school has no buildings of its own. The students occupy the basement of the chapel during the term and recite there. The only expense the school is to the church is the salary of the teachers for the term, one-half the books purchased by the students, and their salary while out at work, which at present amounts on an average to about \$4 a month for eight months of the year.

"Graduates of the Boys' School or men who have a good general education in the old Chinese methods are admitted.

"Students are not licensed or ordained at graduation, but are put on trial for several years, so that licensure is not 'permission to try' as Dr. Willson characterized it at home, but a sort of stamp of progress.

"We have never lacked for funds and are not asking for anything now. To be perfectly frank, Mrs. Kempf has sent a note which says, 'News items for OLIVE TREES as soon as possible' and that is the immediate occasion, though not the real reason, for our writing."

\* \* \* \*

A few particulars as to the condition of the Rev. A. I. Robb are available and we are giving them to the press, knowing the Church awaits with deep concern the facts. Under date of May 23 Dr. Robb wrote: "You



will doubtless have the cablegram (which we plan to send in a day or two) long before this reaches you. I have suspected that there was something wrong for a month or two, and after an apparent attack of malaria, which did not yield to treatment as it should, I went to Canton and had an examination at the hands of the medical staff there. Dr. Wright called in three other men to verify his own diagnosis, and they and the microscope and the X ray all told the same story of a real infection. The reassuring thing is that it has not yet gotten much of a start, and they are quite confident that unless the unexpected occurs I should throw it off in a short time under good conditions.

"We will take the first steamer we can get for home, after the necessary preparations, and after I get home I will communicate further with you. Dr. Wright was quite confident that a period of rest at home would make me all fit again." Reading on to the close of his letter one discerns that Dr. Robb is not without some deep concern as to the future. He says he hopes the sea trip home may benefit him greatly, and he speaks of a proposal to go to a sanitarium on reaching America, "just to learn how to take care of myself." Hearty sympathy will be awakened in the people of the homeland for Dr. Robb, and many prayers will be offered for his speedy recovery.

\* \* \* \*

How's this for the new woman in China? Don't you feel like applauding? Miss Huston sends this and the other school stories.

All fresh and glowing as the early morning she was, and fairly bubbled over with excitement as she burst in upon us, and with the air of a victor announced, "I just now got here! They didn't allow me to come, but I came. I ran off from them! Oh! it's so funny!"

In these days of lawlessness and brigandage we might have thought of

robbers and kidnapping had it not been for her light-hearted joy and merriment.

She is an attractive young widow, who graduated from the Women's School last January and who had been appointed to Wat Naam as Bible woman. This sounded like complications and we eagerly demanded an explanation.

When she received a letter telling her to be ready to go in a day or two, all her "in-laws" to the second and third "remove" seemed to have serious objections. However, though I am sure she had never read the Declaration of Independence, she immediately claimed certain unalterable and inalienable rights—since her husband and his parents were all dead and gone.

The old grandmothers of the village gave her solemn warning of the terrible things that might befall her at the hands of the foreigners. The relatives tried to "ha" her with threats of disinheritance; they coaxed and plead with her, offered her work, land to farm, a home—almost anything if she stay. But none of these things moved her. The Church had given her an education, and now that there was a chance to give the Church the benefit of her training, she was determined that nothing should hinder her.

As a last resort they decided to take her to her mother, a few miles away, in the hope that her parental authority was not entirely null and void. So with an old uncle-in-law in the lead, and an older aunt-in-law as a rear guard, they started out, the girl being quite sure of her mother's sympathy and approval. The old lady, not being as good a traveler as the others, soon fell behind and was out of sight on the winding mountain road. When she came to a fork in the road, a spirit of adventure seized Lai Kei, and unnoticed by the old man, she took the road leading to the Mission, where she arrived an hour later still glowing with the excitement of it.

"But what if they come here for you and make trouble?"

"They won't. I'm my own boss and they can't make me do anything I don't want to do as long as I can make my own living."

After considerable questioning about their sudden deep interest in her welfare, she laughingly told us that her pursuit of happiness did not lie along certain well-trodden paths just at present, though we had at times been rather suspicious that it did. "To speak plainly," she said, "a certain woman has a son. His betrothed died before they were married, and now they want me. But I don't want him and I certainly won't have him. When do you want me to go to Wat Naam?"

"Monday morning."

"Then I'll go back tonight and get my baggage."

We rather feared to see her go, but she said they could do nothing, and she was not afraid.

She is now in Wat Naam, living in a home which was won for Christ largely through the life of Leung Yung Ts'ong, another suffragette who was married against her will a few years ago. She has about twenty women and girls studying more or less regularly as they have time. Your prayers will bring results in her life and work. Will you not remember her in prayer?

\* \* \* \*

A young woman who had had a little education entered school this spring. She had had no arithmetic, but she quickly overcame the difficulties of addition and subtraction, and when she came to the multiplication tables, the "twos" proved so easy that she insisted on staying in the fifth grade where she was on trial, instead of going back to the third. So she was given a dose of the sevens and nines, which proved to be her Waterloo.

"Did you have to learn them?" she asked. "Yes, I learned them more

than twenty-five years ago." "And you haven't forgotten them yet?" "No." "Please won't you give me some of the medicine? It is so hard to learn arithmetic." "What medicine do you mean? Are you sick?" I asked. "Why the medicine you give to make people wise. I thought you gave pupils medicine to make them wise." Assuring her that the road to wisdom is a hard and stony one, I put her back to the third grade and the multiplication tables.

\* \* \* \*

The total enrollment of the Oi Lei Girls' School at Tak Hing has reached fifty with a few more expected. Since twenty-two pupils cannot sit comfortably in sixteen single seats with the thermometer up in the nineties, and since it is slightly inconvenient to be so crowded as to have to move a desk every time we want to open a door or pass through the room, and since it is not entirely hygienic for thirty-five or more pupils and teachers to have to sleep in a room originally intended for twenty, and since the next annex to the dormitory threatened to be of necessity our private boudoir, and since three hours of class work a day in the combined private office of two missionaries and the station book-selling department sometimes interfered with business and private study, and was also greatly interrupted by business callers, it was decided to erect a mat shed on the school grounds to accommodate the school more comfortably.

The building which is in process of erection is twenty-one by thirty-five feet, two stories high, with six-foot veranda on one side, mother earth for the ground floor, and rough boards upstairs. It is being erected with no sound of hammer, saw or ax, all being tied together with thin strips of bamboo, and is guaranteed for three years at a cost of about seventy dollars gold.

Lo Ting, China. Mrs. W. M. Robb, our Lo Ting news agent, sends the

items from Lo Ting and the article, "Our Friends for God." Miss Jean M. Barr furnished "An Unusual Experience."

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A weekly news letter is being issued this year by Tak Hing, Do shing and Loting. In this way we are kept in closer touch with the needs of the whole field. A recent issue contained this paragraph: "If people do not know what is going on in your department, whose fault is it?" We know whose fault it is that the Church does not know what is going on at Lo Ting this year.

\* \* \* \*

Our hearts were greatly burdened during the latter part of January and early part of February for our sister, Ng Saam Koo, head Chinese teacher in the Redpath Girls' School at Lo Ting, who was kidnapped by the robbers. Prayer without ceasing was made for her by both Chinese and missionaries. After eighteen days of very bitter experiences she was released without ransom, which is quite unusual. We give God thanks for her deliverance.

\* \* \* \*

A spiritual revival for our field is the united prayer of the missionary body this year. There is much deadness in our midst, but the Spirit giveth life.

\* \* \* \*

The Redpath Girls' School has an enrollment this term of 84 and is otherwise also in a flourishing condition. A Bible Class for students in the city is held in the building each Sabbath afternoon at 2.30 P. M., under the leadership of Miss J. M. Dean. Increasing interest is manifested and the ambition of the leader is that these young men may decide definitely for Christ.

\* \* \* \*

During a thunder shower a few days ago a man walking along the road quite near the city was struck by lightning and instantly killed. It made

a great sensation in the city, as death by lightning stroke is very unusual. The evangelist the following Sabbath made the incident the basis of his sermon, from the text, "Prepare to meet thy God."

\* \* \* \*

Dr. Wallace has been unusually busy in the hospital the past few weeks. During March over 300 patients were treated and this month about the same in proportion. The majority of these are new patients, which indicates that the hospital's sphere of influence is continually widening. The institution continues to be quite an evangelistic center.

There have been some serious cases recently. Two little burned slave girls call out our special sympathy. One has lost nearly one-sixth of her entire skin surface, and the other almost one-third. The dressing of these two patients alone requires much of the physicians' time.

\* \* \* \*

During the early part of the year, robber conditions in this part of the field were atrocious. A band of over a thousand were operating systematically in the district about 15 miles distant, practically demoralizing all business in Lo P'ing market. So bold did they become that the civilian population did not dare work in the fields for fear of being captured, and the night season was a terror to all the surrounding villages. Scarcely a night or day passed for several weeks without one or more villages being looted, and men, women and children carried away and held for ransom. When the band approached within three miles of Lo Ting, the magistrate decided it was time to work, and telegraphed for troops. Upon their arrival he went in person to Lo P'ing, and the robbers flitted. The magistrate arrested several citizens on the charge of aiding and abetting the brigands, and is still holding them in captivity. Among the number is a Christian, who was a teacher of the Boys' School in Lo P'ing. The robber bands have dis-



persed, but the leaders are as yet not apprehended. Conditions, however, are more peaceful.

\* \* \* \*

The *Canton Times* reports the following: "Pursuant to their claim to be the only legal Parliament in China, the Assembly at Canton on April 9 elected Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the first President of China, to again serve the Republic of China as President. He was elected by an overwhelming vote. All expressed joy when the result was announced. Dr. Sun Yat-sen when informed of the result of the election, in a grave tone remarked: 'There is hope for China. The responsibilities entrusted upon our shoulders by the people are great. It means that we must work harder and fight for the Constitutional Cause with a determined will.'"

What this means for China only time will tell.

#### OUR FRIENDS FOR GOD.

A few years ago, I know not why, a woman entered the Women's School at Tak Hing. She was not at that time a Christian, and was in the school quite a while before the meaning of the gospel was fully revealed to her. But praise His Name! she is now a woman who has caught the vision, and is an earnest seeker after souls.

Last year she was teaching a country school at Wai Tai about 12 miles from Lo Ting. Such a thing as a woman being a teacher is comparatively new to the minds of most people in the vicinity about us, but a woman becoming a teacher, who never had studied a book until she was 39 years of age, is something, indeed, new to the mind of everyone, so it is common talk all over the country.

When Sham Sau Hing went to this little village to take up her work her place of abode was in the home of some women who had already heard of the gospel, and it is here that her work shines most. These women, all

of them, know something of the bitterness of life. One is a young widow, another is the wife of a man who has been abroad for a number of years and who does not return; another is an earnest Christian, who longs that her husband may be with her an "heir of the grace of life," but he smokes opium, and he thinks that a man cannot conscientiously be a Christian and an opium smoker. He is trying first to break the habit, and his wife is praying. She is going to win, too. Her mother, over 80 years of age, lives with her. No, she doesn't want to be a Christian, and another daughter urges not to be. Why? Because if you are a Christian, and your family is, too, there will be no one to burn incense to your memory when you are gone. Her Christian daughter sweetly says, "Do not trouble yourself about that, mother. I am going to take the best care of you that I can while you are living, and if you will only accept Christ as your Savior, that is your only concern."

But the other daughter, who will not believe, is hindering the mother. She heard the doctrine and at first accepted it as true. But when she got with her own people and the devils, too, they persuaded her that it was wrong, and to give it all up, and so she did. The Christian sister still prayed for her. Early in the year she took sick. Her trouble was of such a nature that Chinese doctors could do nothing for her.

Because Sham Sau Hing had been at Wai Tai they knew that the foreign doctors have many plans that they do not have; so the Christian sister urged her to come to Dr. Wallace. Her husband's people held up their hands in horror. "O no, do not go there, why they butcher people in the foreign hospital!" So she suffered on, one month, two months, three months. She could not get up. Her misery was great, and death would be so welcome, but it does not come. Why? God has a plan for that life that He is waiting to have worked out. At last in des-

peration she is sent to the hospital. Tremblingly her daughter comes with her to witness the worst, if need be. The sister prays. Dr. Wallace works. The crisis comes. Best of all the *woman herself prays*, and gives herself entirely over to the Lord Jesus Christ, whether it be to live or to die, and her name, we believe, is written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Nearly every day the daughter comes to see the mother. Marvelous and all that it is she seems to be getting well. Yes, it is all because of the power and love of the Heavenly Father, the daughter says. The Christian sister gives thanks, and still prays. There will be the two daughters now praying for the old mother. Do not you think she will be saved? And who can say how many more? The Master says, "According to your faith be it unto you."

### AN UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE.

Our errand was peaceful and innocent enough. We had gone at the earnest invitation of a Christian to visit her and talk the doctrine in her home. I had taken with me a primary picture roll and anticipated with some joy opening it and showing to the crowd of women and children that gathered about us the pictures that told of the little boy with whose lunch Jesus fed the hungry multitude, of the little girl whom Jesus brought back to life, of the great storm stilled at His word, and other miracles. Pictures are pitifully scarce and the grown-ups are as eager to see them as the children. But the Bible woman, who spoke first, had talked only a short time when she was suddenly interrupted with "Drink tea and then go" from an angry-looking gentleman in the doorway, and he meant just what he said. Actually put out! This was one of those "new experiences" that a friend of mine on the mission

field is always looking for. I have had people laugh at me, and I have known them to deliberately carry on a conversation, and in other ways show their indifference, but never before have I met such open hostility. What about those precious pictures? It was a long way home, and I could not carry them all the way back unopened without at least a try, so following the man out away from the door a short distance as he returned after delivering his ultimatum, I asked, "Sir, I have brought a few pictures, will you kindly permit me to show them to the children?" His refusal was short and emphatic. A whispered consultation was going on between our hostess and the Bible woman when I got back; Kit Ts'ing disappeared, returning in a minute with bowls of a delicious preparation something like noodles, with scrambled eggs on top. We ate, then had a few moments' prayer with Kit Ts'ing in her own room. When we came from her room what was my joy to see that the children had taken the liberty of opening the pictures; so we had an opportunity to talk a bit about two of them, the feeding of the five thousand and the storm on the lake; then we collected our possessions and started home.

At first I was inclined to feel discouraged—just to be put out uncereemoniously when he had hardly begun! But as we walked along, for the most part silently, on our way home, there was time to think it all over, and to see that perhaps it was not all lost effort. The women had heard some and seemed interested, and some of them may come to the chapel as the result of our visit; Kit Ts'ing, who had been quite sick, was comforted and helped; and the man who ordered us off and his village are more in our thoughts and prayers than would have been the case had there been nothing unusual in his treatment of us; and "Prayer changes things" and changes men's hearts.

At the meeting of the Session a number applied for admission. Five were received and one member restored. The new members were mostly baptized members of the Church who claimed their high privileges in Jesus Christ their Saviour. From amongst these we trust there shall be raised several faithful and efficient workers.

The Action sermon was preached by the newly-installed pastor from the words: "This do in remembrance of me." It was a strong warm message, well arranged and well delivered. The assistant gave the Table address, which was also well chosen and delivered as from the heart to the heart. The assistant preached the closing sermon also. As Dr. Balph who delivered the charge to the pastor at the installation service said: "This season will go down in the history of the work of Latakia Mission." For it the Church has prayed and given. For it the missionaries have prayed and striven. Now may the Head of the Church seal with His benediction the new relationship of pastor and people and direct the missionaries in helping to many such events in founding churches and extending the gospel centers. The congregation promised to raise one-third of the pastor's salary (about \$20 per month). This may seem little to you at home, but remember, it is a long step for a first step, when for all these years they have been receiving from your hands but now move forward with you to give with new zeal and desire for the extension of the Truth.

If I knew how to review a sermon as some elders do at home I would like to tell you about the installation sermon preached by the chairman of Commission, R. E. Willson, of Mersine. Its division, clearness of presentation, appropriateness for the hour, warmth and power of delivery were all marked characteristics of the sermon. But those who have heard him at home know that such is the kind of preaching our chairman al-

ways gives. May he be given to have a part in many such rich hours in the Levant—both in Cilicia and Northern Syria. Dr. Kennedy and Rev. Alvin Smith had been invited but it was impossible for them to be present.

The new congregation enters on its work with a splendid foundation and a great field in which to serve. The new officers and pastor, with your prayers and the missionaries' counsel, ought to be a great Gospel powerhouse for the whole Fellaheen mountains, and be the mother of many congregations and out-stations.

Let us rejoice in the men and women who founded the work and helped us to see this day and with as Ludwig 7 Ol Trees 10x15 Day B great faith and zeal as theirs let us move forward to what the Master hath yet ahead for us all in leading thousands into the glorious light of His love.

Your servant in the Gospel,  
SAMUEL EDGAR.

Latakia, Syria, May 12, 1921.

### LARNACA, CYPRUS.

From the Rev. Alvin W. Smith we receive some interesting items. First of all, there is this one about a water engine, sent out evidently by friends in America. OLIVE TREES knows nothing of who the kind friends were but rejoices in the added convenience afforded to the missionaries in Larnaca: "The engine has been received, mounted under the direction of Mr. Tweed, and pumped water yesterday. It is O. K. Thanks to all who had a part in sending it out!"

\* . \* \* \*

Within a month from today the Academy school year will be closed, on account of the increased heat. Since the students returned from Easter vacation we have held half-day sessions. School begins with devotional exercises each morning at 7.45, and the seven periods of thirty-five minutes each follow each other on the run till 12.45, with a half-hour recess



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LEVANT.

The Rev. Samuel Edgar reviews the work in the stations and gives a most interesting account of the ordination and installation of the native pastor, Rev. Awad, over the native congregation at Latakia.

Dear OLIVE TREES:

Your readers have all been talking and praying for "The Forward Movement" and we here in the Levant have been trying to keep up with you in reading and watching your plans. We have been following the secretary in all his movements and are delighted with the success that he has been given to see all along the line. We wait his Synod report with great interest. The plans for the Forward movement here on the Mission Field had to be governed by a number of things over which we had no control. For instance, in Cyprus, boys had to be turned away from the boarding school, as there was no room; every place taken. This is what we like to see, for that places the responsibility on the home base and not on the missionary. In Mersine Field we were compelled to work as best we could and be happy in limits and retreat. When I say retreat, I mean that the Tarsus work was in a measure shut down because of political conditions. Our ordained evangelist was compelled to move to Mersine, but he had plenty to do there and this gave Rev. Willson much time for refugee service. In Suadea, schools were well attended at the first of the year but then fell away, and we have not been able to place an evangelist there as we have no one to send. Then around Latakia, where we hoped there might be a wide open door for new village work, we have had to be content with the two days schools and hospital work in Latakia. Owing to robbery and raids it has been impossible to do any touring. All these things, save the Cyprus incident, are not high water marks for a successful Forward Movement.

However the last week has been full of good things in the Latakia Center. One of those weeks that has its roots reaching back into the lives and service of the men and women who laid the foundation here, and went on to glory, leaving others to build thereon. Prayers and faith of years seemed to carry us answers last week when the Syrian Commission of Synod met for its annual meeting and for the installation of a native pastor over the Latakia congregation. You all remember that this congregation was recently organized and immediately they took steps for the election of a pastor. This was cause for thanksgiving in the heart of every missionary. Maggie B. Edgar, in her years of service in the Boys' School, had this daily hope in her heart, that the Lord might raise from amongst the boys those to be the preachers and teachers of the days to come. Dr. Stewart gave of his best in teaching the newly-installed pastor theology and a year ago had the added joy of laying his hand on him in ordination for the glorious work of the gospel. Within the recent months the members of the mission have seen the reorganization of the congregation and now the pleasure of helping in the installation of the first native pastor, Rev. Awad, in the history of the mission. Truly one lays the foundation and another buildeth thereon. One sows and another reaps, but all rejoice together in the success of the gospel and the advancement of the church. We wished Dr. Stewart might have been present to see this work completed.

Following the installation was the Spring Communion service. Here we had another new experience; the newly-installed pastor was assisted in the services by Rev. Michail Lattoof, of Tarsus. It was a blessed experience to be ministered to by two such able men. Every part of the service was carried through with as much care and dignity and order as you find in a home congregation.

between the fourth and fifth periods. The heat has been moderated though by two good rains not long ago, so we have not noticed it so much yet.

\* \* \* \*

After lunch each day there is a rest period till three o'clock, when everybody, except the master on duty for that day, goes to bed. This is a welcome period, even though everyone does not sleep. From half-past three to half-past four there is a study-period, then on three days each week the boys go to the sea with one of the masters. We had some baseball for several weeks—but none since the weather became so hot.

\* \* \* \*

As we are forced to dismiss for the Greek Easter and the Armenian which came so late this year, there was no break between the second and third terms, but when it did come it was an ample one, and everyone enjoyed it. Several improvements were made around the school, among which was the making of a new tennis court; this took considerable time and hard work but Tweed with his section gang of vacation students and teachers did a thorough job and put it on a rock-bottom and with a smooth finish. The new teachers who come out must not forget their racquets.

\* \* \* \*

We had a congregational picnic, also, during vacation. It was held in the same garden as last year, through the kindness of the owner, George Pierides, one of our students last year. About 70 were present, counting members, friends and children. People over here like these social gatherings just as at home, and I think everyone enjoyed the day, with the good dinner, the games before and after noon, and the singing.

\* \* \* \*

Before the picnic, I went to Nicosia for the regular monthly visit, and also to Kyrenia, where some of our people are whom we cannot visit oftener than once every three months. After

the picnic, Mr. Demetriades went to Limassol and I to Famagusta. These trips are worthwhile certainly. Their chief value to me thus far has been the vision of what needs to be done and what can be done out here if we can get a force of native evangelists raised up and trained. There are friends and members in all of the places, almost, and they, together with Paphos, to which I have never been yet, form the central points from which to work as a basis.

\* \* \* \*

Perhaps something can be accomplished, at least a start made within another year if the two teachers come out, so that there can be more of a division of labor. After what has appeared in the OLIVE TREES, nothing need be said regarding hopes for the girls' school as the meeting of Synod will have convened and decided the matter. To be or not to be, however, has nothing to do with the need or opportunities for the school, and if there are teachers who have volunteered on two occasions it seems too bad if they cannot be enlisted.

\* \* \* \*

It is good news that two Geneva graduates have decided to come out for the Academy this fall!

\* \* \* \*

The word has come from Rev. S. Edgar and Rev. R. E. Willson that the conference which was to have been held at Mersine soon after the first of July for various reasons has been postponed at least till September. Perhaps after all it will be better to have it again, when the new workers come out. I think we will take our trip over there just the same if things are quiet enough for it, and go on to Syria and Palestine. So we will probably see some of the workers at least.

LATER—As we go to press word is received that Miss Shanks has been ordered home from Beirut on account of ill health. The Church will pray for her.

**WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT**

Edited by MRS. J. S. MARTIN and MRS. M. E. METHENY,  
College Hill, Beaver Falls, Pa.

**FIRST BIENNIAL MEETING OF  
WOMEN'S SYNODICAL MIS-  
SIONARY SOCIETY.**

The fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Covenant was the occasion of the gathering together of an unusually large number of Covenanters, men and women, at Synod time, in Pittsburgh, June 8-15.

This was encouraging to the Women's Synodical Missionary Society, which held its first biennial meeting the same week and a large number of women attended each session.

Thursday night the joint program of the Forward Movement and the Women's Synodical Missionary Society was listened to by a large audience. The church, brilliantly lighted and newly decorated in rich colors, presented a pleasing sight. Upon and around the platform were numerous magnificent palms which added to the cheerfulness of the large church. Rev. Delbert Elliott, Secretary of the Forward Movement, presided in his own gracious way. A fine quartet of ladies, led by Mrs. W. J. Ward, led the praise service.

Mrs. W. O. Ferguson, of Denison, led the devotional services, using "Co-Operation" as the keyword. The prayer response by both men and women was most helpful.

It was an interesting event when the new Moderator of Synod, Rev. T. M. Slater, of Seattle, gave the greetings. Two years ago he was Synod's representative to welcome the newly-organized Women's Synodical Missionary Society. He was most gracious and cordial in his words.

An address on Women's Responsibility for the Forward Movement's success was given by the President of the Synodical, Mrs. Myrta Dodds, of Denver, Colo. In a very clear and impressive way she stressed the re-

sponsibility of Covenanter women for the spiritual life of the home circle and the importance of the tithe and a yielding of our lives to Christ to be used for his services.

She gave us many things to think of in connection with Christian service as mothers and sisters and was listened to with very close attention.

Mrs. A. J. McFarland, of Mersine, gave a very interesting address on the "Day Star of the East." She made a strong plea for workers in the Levant and gave us many thoughts for mediation when we reflect on whether we are doing our full duty.

A Missionary Pageant led by Miss Mary McWilliams was a fitting close to the fine program. It represented a lady physician with her new diploma ready for practice. Where should she go? A choir in the distance sang softly as young girls in costumes representing India, China, Africa, Korea and other countries came upon the platform dressed in costume, each pleading for her to come to her country. The climax came when she decided to go as a foreign missionary. All day Friday was given to a business session. Mrs. W. J. Ward led the singing in which all joined heartily.

Our devotional services were led by Mrs. Adda Thompson, Mrs. Melville Carson, Mrs. Harriet Pritchard and Mrs. T. H. Acheson. Sacred and helpful were these inspirational periods. The reports of the officers and superintendent were given, showing a good work done along all lines. Many commendations were adopted. We were very much pleased to have Mrs. Ella M. George with us every day with her good cheer, clear vision and helpful suggestion.

We enjoyed a helpful consecration service on Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, at which time she spoke to us



on "The Privilege of Christian Service."

The wheels of W. S. M. S. are geared to the accomplishment of a larger service for the next two years. The following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Myrta Dodds, Denver, Colo.

Vice-Presidents, Mrs. J. M. Coleman, Bloomington, Ind.; Mrs. H. G. Patterson, Washington, Iowa; Mrs. Boyd Tweed, Beaver Falls, Pa.; Mrs. S. P. McClelland, Greely, Colo.; Mrs. J. M. Wylie, Kansas City, Mo.

Recording Secretary, Mrs. Robert Young, Parnassus, Pa.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. W. M. Hutcheson, Sterling, Kans.

Treasurer, Mrs. W. O. Ferguson, Denison, Kans.

Superintendents:

Foreign Missions, Mrs. F. M. Wilson.

Home Missions, Mrs. Lilly McKnight.

Literature, Mrs. J. S. Martin.

Temperance, Mrs. Henry Russell.

Thank Offering, Mrs. J. K. M. Tibby.

Young Woman's, Mrs. E. M. Harsh.

Junior Secretary, Mrs. T. C. Weir.

Standard of Efficiency, Mrs. T. H. Acheson.

Plan of Work, chairman Mrs. R. C. Wylie.

Very much of the success of the Biennial was due to the careful planning of the President to the women of the Pittsburgh Presbyterial, the women of the city of Pittsburgh, who opened their homes to us, and left nothing undone that our stay in their city might be pleasant. May God's blessing follow all that may have been done in His Name.

MRS. M. W. HUTCHESON.

### PITTSBURGH PRESBYTERIAL CONVENTION.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Convention of the Women's Missionary Society of the Pittsburgh Presbyterial

was held in the Parnassus R. P. Church, on May 31 and June 1, 1921. There were ten officers and fifty-two delegates present, twenty-one societies being represented. The Convention was called to order by the President, Mrs. J. S. McGaw, of Pittsburgh.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Robert Park, of Parnassus, her subject being "Consecration."

A Conference on Methods in measuring up to our standard of efficiency was conducted by Mrs. M. L. Watson, the Standard of Efficiency Secretary in the Pittsburgh Presbyterial. Mrs. R. C. Colwell, Young Women's Secretary, conducted a symposium on the subject, "How Shall We Prepare Recruits for Our Mission Fields?" The discussion of both these subjects was exceedingly interesting, for almost all societies were represented and many thoughtful speeches were made.

"The Americanization of Foreign Women" was discussed by Mrs. W. R. Porter, of Allegheny, who gave first-hand information from her own experience as a Settlement worker.

The Junior Missionary exercises were conducted by the Junior Superintendent, Miss Mary McWilliams. Twenty-six children took part in the Junior Thank-Offering service. They were greeted at the close of the Junior Hour by the missionaries present, Dr. Dickson, of China; Miss McFarland, of our Social Mission, and Miss McMurtry, of our Indian Mission.

The evening session of the Convention was opened with a Thank-Offering Service, conducted by the Presbyterial Thank-Offering Secretary, Mrs. T. H. Acheson. The Thank-Offering amounted to \$2427.84. Mrs. C. A. Dodds, of Pittsburgh, offered the Thank-Offering Prayer.

Dr. E. J. M. Dickson, of Lo Ting, China, gave an illustrated lecture on our mission work in China. His lecture was especially interesting because it was given from the viewpoint of a medical missionary. He stressed

particularly the willingness and the ability of the Chinese to help themselves and to "carry on," when once they have received the gospel message.

The Wednesday morning session of the Convention was opened with a helpful consecration service led by Miss Alice Carithers. This was the business session of the Convention and it was marked by a spirit of Christian comradeship and desire to further the Master's cause. The reports of the following officers were heard: Magazine Editors, Thank-Offering Secretary, Secretary of Juniors of Temperance, Literature, Young Women's Societies and Standard of Efficiency. The average of the standard of efficiency in the societies which reported was 70.8 per cent.

Election of officers for the coming year resulted as follows:

President, Mrs. Wm. Esler.

Vice-Presidents, Mrs. C. A. Dodds, Mrs. J. M. Johnston.

Recording Secretary, Mrs. Howard George.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. R. M. Pearce.

Treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Ward.

Supt. Juniors, Miss Mary McWilliams.

Asst. Supt. Juniors, Miss Lattie Harris.

Thank-Offering Secretary, Mrs. T. H. Acheson.

Temperance Secretary, Mrs. C. N. Pullinger.

Standard of Efficiency Secretary, Mrs. M. L. Watson.

Young Women's Secretary, Mrs. R. C. Colwell.

The Convention expressed by a rising vote its thanks to the people of the Parnassus Congregation for their bountiful and hospitality and adjourned to meet in the New Castle Church in the spring of 1922.

MRS. HOWARD GEORGE,  
*Secretary.*

## REPORT OF CONFERENCE ON METHODS, STANDARD OF EFFICIENCY AND UNIFORM PROGRAMS.

At the Thirty-sixth Annual Convention of the Women's Missionary Society of the Pittsburgh Presbyterial, which has just closed a very successful meeting at Parnassus, Pa., forty minutes were devoted to a conference on the Standard of Efficiency and Uniform Programs as adopted by the Women's Synodical, led by Mrs. M. L. Watson.

Out of 25 societies in the Presbyterial 10 societies reported using the Standard of Efficiency, which was an increase of four over last year.

A number of copies of the Standard of Efficiency were typewritten and distributed among the delegates, so that each person could have these rules before her during the discussion.

Each item was taken up separately and one or more persons gave a three-minute talk on each, which was followed by a few minutes for open discussion, at which time the delegates were asked to express their opinion and ask questions.

Mrs. S. R. Wills gave us some very good ideas on "How to gain members and hold them;" Mrs. Boyd Tweed on "How to increase attendance." Mrs. J. S. Martin was very interesting on the subject of "Importance of OLIVE TREES in every home."

Mrs. R. A. M. Steele then read a paper which had been prepared by Mrs. Carson, of East End Women's M. S., on "Helpfulness of the World's Missionary Review."

Mrs. Knox M. Young spoke on the "Result of using the two Mission study text books." The opinion of the majority present was that there was not time during the regular meetings to study the two books thoroughly and that it was better to use only one book and do it well. Mrs. C. A. Dodds followed on the subject of "Intercessors."

The talks and discussions were so interesting that the forty minutes had been used and twenty minutes longer were allowed.

Mrs. R. M. Pearce told of the "Benefits received from special Thank-Offering Meetings" and suggestions on "Junior Work" were given by Mrs. C. A. Crooks.

The 10th, 11th and 12th items were passed over very quickly, as all understood the need of reports being prepared on time and that in order to work our societies to any degree of perfection it would be necessary to have a secretary to remind us of the requirements and to estimate our percentage of efficiency.

In receiving the reports many societies gave as their reason for not using the Standard of Efficiency that their society was too small which is only an excuse, not a real reason. This was very forcibly brought out by Mrs. R. J. McIsaac, who belongs to one of our smaller societies, in her remarks on "Result of adopting Standard of Efficiency for small societies."

There was no time left for the discussion of Uniform Programs, but it was generally thought a very good thing but a little long.

We felt the delegates would be able to take home a better understanding of these subjects and that next year would show a great improvement in percentage.

MRS. M. L. WATSON,  
*Efficiency Secretary, Pittsburgh Presbyterial.*

\* \* \* \*

Our readers will notice that our department is taken up with accounts of Synodical Meeting and Pittsburgh Presbyterial Convention. Coming as they did so nearly together both in time and place we feel confident you will enjoy reading about these meetings, where so much that was helpful and interesting was enjoyed by those privileged to attend.

We could fill all of this issue of the

OLIVE TREES were we to attempt to give you all. Being limited to four pages we can only touch the high points in this number and will try to give more in the August issue.

The book recommended and adopted for Mission Study the coming year is "The Kingdom and the Nations," by Eric M. North. It seemed to be the opinion of the majority of those present that better results would follow if only one book were used each year. The book suggested is a Foreign Mission study. The Home Mission book is "From Survey to Service." These books can be obtained from the Central Committee of the United Study of Foreign Missions, West Medford, Mass., and are forty-five cents, paper cover.

The department known until now as the Women's Department, will receive the new name, Women's Synodical department, and will be under the direction of the Synodical, editors being elected at the biennial meeting.

Dr. Sommerville very kindly gave to the Pittsburgh Presbyterial the use of four pages in OLIVE TREES. It had been the aim of this department from the beginning, some eleven years ago, to make it a department for the women of the Church. So far we have only partially succeeded. For two or three years we have had contributors in each Presbyterial. Where no such organization existed we have tried to secure some one from each Presbyterial in the Church. Doubtless under the new management it will become more and more used by the women of the Church and be no longer looked upon as a department for the women of the Pittsburgh Presbyterial.

There is no such thing as utter failure to one who has done his best.

\* \* \* \*

One sure way of peace-making is to let the fire of contention alone. Neither fan it nor stir it, nor add fuel to it, but let it go out by itself.—*C. H. Spurgeon.*



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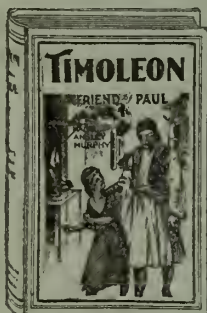
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